

---

# Humanities/Social Sciences

## Humanities/Social Sciences Major BA degree

---

### Program Director, William Nelles

Professor of English and Associate Dean,  
College of Arts and Sciences

The Bachelor of Arts in Humanities/Social Sciences offers students the opportunity to gain a broad-based understanding of human activities, institutions, and societies and to develop their ability to think and write critically in the classical tradition of the liberal arts. The program prepares students for a wide variety of careers in human services, the professions, and the corporate world. It is especially recommended for those intending to become elementary teachers. Given its broad academic scope, it provides the foundation for long-term career development and change.

The interdisciplinary nature of the Humanities/Social Sciences major makes it especially important that students work closely with their faculty advisor in selecting courses and constructing a coherent academic program. Within the major, students select a field of concentration, which can also form the basis for a minor in a department or topical area such as Women's Studies, Labor Studies, African/African American Studies, Gerontology, etc.

Students are encouraged to declare the Humanities/Social Sciences major as soon as possible in their academic career, at which time they should submit a written rationale and proposed program of study to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and their faculty advisor. The major is also available to entering freshmen who plan to seek certification as elementary teachers. *BA degree candidates may not use it as part of a double major.*

### Requirements

The major consists of 36 credits of Humanities/Social Sciences courses, at least 24 credits of which must be at the 300-level or above. Up to 12 credits may be taken at the 200-level. No 100-level course may be used to satisfy major requirements. Courses used for the major may also be used to satisfy the requirements of a minor or parts of the University's General Education program, but *not* the distribution requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences.

#### A

Distribution of courses in the major.

Within the 36 credits of the Humanities/Social Sciences major the following distribution must be followed:

#### 1

Students choose at least two areas (disciplines) in the Humanities and at least two in the Social Sciences (four areas total--see lists of disciplines under 4).

#### 2

At least 6 credits (two courses) must be taken in each of the four areas selected.

#### 3

Area of concentration. A minimum of 12 credits, including a 400-level course, must be taken in one of the four areas selected.

#### 4

The remaining 6 credits of the major may be taken in any of the 11 Humanities/Social Sciences areas or disciplines.

### Humanities Disciplines

Art History  
English  
Foreign Literature and Languages  
History  
Music (non-applied courses)  
Philosophy  
Portuguese

### Social Sciences Disciplines

Economics  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Sociology/Anthropology

#### B

College distribution requirements.

Humanities/Social Sciences majors must satisfy the College of Arts and Sciences distribution requirements for BA candidates. Courses used to satisfy the college distribution requirements and H/SS major requirements may also be used to satisfy the University's General Education requirements.

#### C

University General Education Program.

All majors in the University are required to complete the General Education requirements. Several of the General Education categories are automatically satisfied by the College distribution requirements (categories C, S, and Tier 1 of categories I and W). Students normally satisfy categories E, G, and D in the course of meeting distribution and major requirements. Since the H/SS major is interdisciplinary, students will normally use the department of concentration to meet the Tier 2 requirements in Information and Computer Literacy, Writing Skills, and Oral Skills. In any case, students should discuss their General Education options with their major advisor.